GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:294
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2006
AWARDING OF BHARAT RATNA
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the persons who have been awarded Bharat Ratna during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) the names of the persons who have surrendered or declined to accept the award;

(c) the criteria adopted by Government to award Bharat Ratna to any person;

(d) whether the Government has constituted any committee to scrutinise the names of the people for the award of Bharat Ratna;

(e) the terms of reference given to the committee; and

(f) the details of members of the committee which scrutinises the name for this honour?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a): Bharat Ratna award has not been conferred on any person during the last three years.

(b): As per available records, the posthumous award of Bharat Ratna on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was declined by his family.

(c): Bharat Ratna is awarded for exceptional service towards the advancement of Art, Literature and Science, and in recognition of public service of the highest order.

(d) to (f): No Committee has been constituted to scrutinise names of people for the award of Bharat Ratna. Recommendations for the award of Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister himself to the President. The Prime Minister may consult one he chooses.